



ST. THOMAS ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 25, 2025

1. **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE UKRAINE AND ISRAEL.**
2. **Greece in Footsteps of St. Paul with Greek Isle Cruise & Medjugorje.** Fr. Eugene has accepted an offer of Spiritual Director, 206 Tour 161-A, September 26 – October 10, 2025. You can find the details on the trip by clicking on the link <https://www.206tours.com/cms/tour161a/>. To see the prices, click on Dates & Prices, select September 26 – October 10. Father is leaving from Tampa. You can also click on the button "Fr. Eugene's Pilgrimages on the website homepage to see the details of the trip. If you are only interested in **Greece in Footsteps of St. Paul with Greek Isle Cruise** without Medjugorje, you would choose Tour 161, September 26 – October 6. He will be Spiritual Director on both tours.
3. **The obligation to participate in the Eucharist in person on Sundays and other holy days of obligation was restored three years ago on Palm Sunday 2022.** Regular attendance at Mass is what fulfills God's commandment to "Keep holy the Sabbath Day". Our world is hurting. We all need healing yet many of us are separated from the source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith: his Real Presence in the Eucharist.
4. Our Parish bulletin can be viewed weekly online by clicking on the Bulletin button on our website at www.stthomasbartow.org. A new button has been added that you can also see the previous week's bulletin. If you do not have access to the internet, please let the office know, and copies can be printed. If you look at the bulletin on your phone, you can add an icon to your homepage by doing the following steps for an iphone. 1. **Do a search for stthomasbartow.org.** 2. **When the page opens, Click** (touch) the small square with an arrow pointing up on the bottom of the screen. 3. **Scroll** down and

(touch “Add to Home Screen”. **4. Click** (touch) “Add” in the upper right-hand corner. The next time you want to view the website, you only have to touch the new icon on your home page screen. If you need help finding the website or creating the icon on your phone, call the office or stop in the narthex after Mass for help. If you have an Android phone, please call the office for directions.

5. To subscribe to Bishop John Noonan’s E-Scroll, news from the Diocese of Orlando go to www.orlandodiocese.org/e-scroll/. Just provide your name and email address.
6. Fr. Blake Britton, a priest in our Diocese, who is now at the Pontifical Institute of St. John Paul II in Washington DC for further studies, has written a book, *Reclaiming Vatican II, What It (Really) Said, What It Means, and How It Calls Us to Renew the Church*. If you would like to purchase the book, click on the following link: <https://books.wordonfire.org/reclaimingvaticanii>
7. Bishop Robert Barron, author, speaker, theologian and founder of Word on Fire, a global media ministry, is producing a Bible series. Volume I focuses on the Gospels, Volume II on Acts, Letters, and Revelation, and Volume III, The Pentateuch. All can be ordered at <https://wordonfire.org/bible>. There will be a total of seven volumes. If you would like to subscribe to Bishop Barron’s newsletter, go to <https://wordonfire.org/#newsletter> and just provide your email address.
8. In honor of Mother Angelica, foundress of EWTN catholic television network, please consider a gift of \$10, \$20, or \$25 per month or any amount you choose.
9. The annual Women’s Club Rummage Sale is planned for Friday and Saturday, October 17 & 18. If you have items for the sale, you can bring them to the Social Hall at any time. Just call the office, and someone will open the door for you.

Catholic Trivia

Where was the first Marian apparition? Did you know that the first Marian apparition occurred even before the Blessed Mother was assumed into Heaven?

Around 40 A.D., Mary is believed to have appeared to the Apostle James the Greater in modern-day Zaragoza, Spain. The Blessed Mother was standing on a pillar of jasper, helped by two angels, an apparition that led to the devotion to Our Lady of the Pillar.



According to tradition, at the time, St. James was evangelizing to the Romans in modern-day Spain and was encountering great struggles and discouragement. While he was praying by a river, Mary bilocated from Jerusalem to bring St. James encouragement and consolation.

Today, the Cathedral-Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar is located at the site of the apparition in Zaragoza, Spain. This cathedral was the first church dedicated to Mary in Church history.

The basilica contains majestic artwork; the main attraction is the wooden statue of Our Lady, standing on a jasper column. Many well-known Church figures and leaders have visited the Cathedral-Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar, including St. Teresa of Ávila, St. John of the Cross, and St. Ignatius of Loyola.

May is the month of Mary! Let these last days of May remind you to grow in devotion to our Blessed Mother. Remember that we are not only called to love Our Lady, we are called to imitate her!